



**THE CSS POINT**

**Yes We Can Do It!**

# **PHRASES / PROVERBS**

English (Precis & Composition)

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## Alphabetical list - A

**Absence makes the heart grow fonder.**

When you are away from someone you love, you love them even more.

**Accidents will happen.**

Some unfortunate events must be accepted as inevitable.

**Actions speak louder than words.**

What a person actually does is more important than what they say they will do.

**Advice is cheap.**

It doesn't cost anything to offer advice.

**Advice is least heeded when most needed.**

When a problem is serious, people often do not follow the advice given.

**Advisers run no risks.**

It's easier to give advice than to act.

**All cats are grey in the dark.**

People are undistinguished until they have made a name.

**All good things come to those who wait.**

Patience brings rewards.

**All that glitters is not gold.**

Appearances can be deceptive.

**All days are short to Industry and long to Idleness.**

Time goes by slowly when you have nothing to do.

**All is fair in love and war**

Things that are done in love or war can often be excused.

**All's well that ends well**

There is a solution to everything even though there are doubts.

**All that glitters is not gold.**

What look good on the outside may not be so in reality.

**All things grow with time - except grief.**

As time goes by, grief subsides little by little.

**All things are difficult before they are easy.**

With practice things become easier.

**All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy.**

Everybody needs a certain amount of relaxation. It is not good to work all the time;

**An apple a day keeps the doctor away.**

Eating an apple every day can help to keep you healthy.

Other interpretation : A small preventive treatment wards off serious problems.

**An empty purse frightens away friends.**

When one's financial situation deteriorates, friends tend to disappear.

**An Englishman's home is his castle.**

An Englishman's home is a place where he feels safe, enjoys privacy and can do as he wishes.

**An idle brain is the devil's workshop.**

When you work you avoid temptation.

**An onion a day keeps everyone away.**

A humoristic version of "an apple a day..."

**An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.**

It is easier to prevent something from happening than to repair the damage or cure the disease later.

**Anger is the one thing made better by delay.**

When you are angry, it is best not to speak or act immediately.

**Any time means no time.**

If the date of an event remains vague, it will never happen.

**April showers bring May flowers.**

Something bad or unpleasant today may bring good things in the future.

**A bad tree does not yield good apples.**

A bad parent does not raise good children.

**A bad workman blames his tools.**

Blaming the tools for bad workmanship is an excuse for lack of skill.

**A bird in hand is worth two in a bush.**

It's better to keep what you have than to risk losing it by searching for something

better.

**A broken friendship may be soldered but will never be sound.**

Friendships can be rebuilt after a dispute but will never be as strong as before.

**A burden of one's own choice is not felt.**

Something difficult seems easier when it is done voluntarily.

**A burnt child dreads the fire.**

A bad experience will make people stay away from certain things.

**A cat has nine lives.**

- 1) Cats can survive many accidents because they land on their feet without injury.
- 2) Nine lives = 3 years to play, 3 years to stray, 3 years to stay.

**A chain is no stronger than its weakest link.**

The strength of a group depends on each individual member.

**A change is as good as a rest.**

A change in routine is often as refreshing as a break or a holiday.

**A dry March, a wet April and a cool May fill barn and cellar and bring much hay.**

Harvest predictions according to the weather.

**A fault confessed is half redressed.**

Confession is the beginning of forgiveness.

**A flower blooms more than once.**

If you miss an occasion, you can avail of it at another time.

**A fool and his money are soon (easily) parted.**

A foolish person usually spends money carelessly.

**A fool at forty is a fool forever.**

If a person hasn't matured by the age of 40, they never will.

**A friend in need is a friend indeed.**

Someone who helps you when you are in trouble is a real friend.

**A friend to all is a friend to none.**

Someone who is a friend to everyone makes none of them feel special.

**A friend's eye is a good mirror.**

A real friend will tell you the truth.

**A good example is the best sermon.**

Giving an example is better than giving advice.

**A good beginning makes a good end.**

If a task is carefully planned, there's a better chance that it will be done well.

**A good conscience is a soft pillow.**

You sleep well when you have nothing to feel guilty about.

**A guilty conscience needs no accuser.**

**A leopard cannot change its spots.**

It is not possible for a bad or unpleasant person to become good or pleasant.

**A loaded wagon makes no noise.**

Really wealthy don't talk about money.

**A loveless life is a living death.**

Without affection, life is difficult.

**A man can die but once.**

**A man is as old as he feels himself to be.**

Your age doesn't matter as long as you are fit and healthy.

**A man is known by the company he keeps.**

A person's character is judged by the type of people with whom they spend their time.

**A monkey in silk is a monkey no less.**

No matter how someone dresses, it's the same person underneath.

**A new broom sweeps clean.**

A newly-appointed person makes changes energetically.

**A problem shared is a problem halved**

It is easier to deal with a problem when you discuss it with someone.

**A rising tide lifts all boats.**

Describes something that will be helpful to all.

**A rolling stone gathers no moss.**

If a person keeps moving from place to place, they gain neither friends nor possessions.

Another interpretation is that, by moving often, one avoids being tied down!

**A rotten apple spoils the barrel.**

A dishonest or immoral person can have a bad influence on a group.

**A smooth sea never made a skilled mariner.**

Overcoming adversity leads to competence.

**A stitch in time saves nine.**

It's better to deal with a problem at an early stage, to prevent it from getting worse.

**A stumble may prevent a fall.**

Correcting a small mistake may help you to avoid making a bigger one.

**A swallow does not make the summer.**

One good event does not mean that everything is alright.

**A tree is known by its fruit.**

A man is judged by his actions.

**A watched pot never boils**

If you wait anxiously for something, it seems to take a long time.

**A young idler, an old beggar.**

If you don't work, you won't have any money when you're old.

**After dinner rest a while, after supper walk a mile.**

Dinner is called 'lunch' nowadays, and supper has become 'dinner'.

**As you sow, so shall you reap**

You have to accept the consequences of your actions.

**Ask me no questions, I'll tell you no lies.**

There are subjects I'd rather not discuss.

## Alphabetical list - B

**Bad news travels fast.**

People tend to circulate bad news (accidents, illness etc.) very quickly.

**(A) bad tree does not yield good apples.**

A bad parent does not raise good children.

**(A) bad workman blames his tools.**

Blaming the tools for bad workmanship is an excuse for lack of skill.

**Beauty is only skin deep.**

A person's character is more important than their appearance.

**Beauty is in the eye of the beholder.**

Different people have different tastes.

**Beauty is the wisdom of women. Wisdom is the beauty of men.**

**Be swift to hear, slow to speak.**

Listen carefully before speaking.

**Better be alone than in bad company.**

Be careful in the choice of the people you associate with.

**Better be the head of a dog than the tail of a lion.**

It's better to be the leader of a small group than a subordinate in a bigger one.

**Better flatter a fool than fight him.**

It's better to avoid disputes with stupid people.

**Better to drink the milk than to eat the cow.**

Be careful not to destroy the source of your income or welfare.

**Better the devil you know than the devil you don't know**

It's better to deal with somebody difficult but familiar, than change and risk dealing with somebody worse.

**Better late than never.**

It's better to do something, even if it's late, than not do it at all.

**Better lose the saddle than the horse.**

It's better to stop and accept a small loss, rather than continue and risk losing

everything.

### **Better safe than sorry**

It's better to be too careful than to be careless and regret it later.

### **Better untaught than ill-taught**

It's better not to be taught at all than to be taught badly.

### **Beware of Greeks bearing gifts.**

Don't trust your enemies.

### **(A) bird in hand is worth two in a bush.**

It's better to keep what you have than to risk losing it by searching for something better.

### **Birds of a feather flock together.**

People of the same sort are usually found together.

### **Blood is thicker than water**

Family relationships are stronger than relationships with other people.

### **Blood will out.**

A person's background or education will eventually show.

### **(A) broken friendship may be soldered but will never be sound.**

Friendships can be rebuilt after a dispute but will never be as strong as before.

### **(A) burden of one's own choice is not felt.**

Something difficult seems easier when it is done voluntarily.

### **(A) burnt child dreads the fire.**

A bad experience will make people stay away from certain things

## **Alphabetical list - C**

### **(A) cat has nine lives.**

- 1) Cats can survive many accidents because they land on their feet without injury.
- 2) Nine lives = 3 years to play, 3 years to stray, 3 years to stay.

### **(A) chain is no stronger than its weakest link.**

The strength of a group depends on each individual member.

### **(A) change is as good as a rest.**

A change in routine is often as refreshing as a break or a holiday.

**Charity begins at home.**

A person's first duty is to help and care for his own family.

**Children and fools tell the truth.**

**Cleanliness is next to godliness.**

A clean body is just as important as a pure soul.

**Clear moon, frost soon.**

If the atmosphere is clear, frost may form.

**Clothes don't make the man.**

Appearances can be deceiving.

**Constant occupation prevents temptation.**

When you work you avoid temptation.

### Alphabetical list - D

**Dead men tell no tales**

A dead person cannot cause difficulties by revealing something that it would be preferable to conceal.

**Diamond cuts diamond.**

Refers to two people equally matched in wit or cunning.

**Diligence is the mother of good fortune.**

Hard work brings rewards.

**Discretion is the better part of valour**

It is useless to take unnecessary risks.

**Diseases of the soul are more dangerous than those of the body.**

**Distance makes the heart grow fonder.**

When you are separated from the person you love, your feelings are even stronger.

**Dogs of the same street bark alike.**

People from the same background have the same behaviour.

**Don't bark if you can't bite.**

Don't complain if you can't enforce your point of view.

**Don't count your chickens before they're hatched.**

You must not be too confident that something will be successful.

**Don't dig your grave with your own knife and fork.**

Don't do something yourself which causes your own downfall.

**Don't judge a book by its cover.**

Don't judge by appearances.

**(A) dry March, a wet April and a cool May fill barn and cellar and bring much hay.**

Harvest predictions according to the weather.

### Alphabetical list - E

**Early to bed and early to rise makes a man healthy, wealthy and wise.**

It is better to go to bed early at night and to get up early in the morning.

**Easier said than done.**

What is suggested sounds easy, but it is more difficult to actually do it.

**Elbow grease is the best polish.**

Hard work gives the best results.

**Empty vessels make the most noise.**

The least intelligent people are often the most talkative or noisy.

**(An) empty purse frightens away friends.**

When one's financial situation deteriorates, friends tend to disappear.

**(An) Englishman's home is his castle.**

An Englishman's home is a place where he feels safe, enjoys privacy and can do as he wishes.

**Every ass likes to hear himself bray.**

People like to listen to themselves talking.

**Every cloud has a silver lining**

There is a positive or hopeful side to every unpleasant situation.

**Every man for himself.**

You must think of your own interests before the interests of others.

**Every man has his price.**

Everyone's loyalty can be bought for a price.

**Every man is the architect of his own fortune.**

Life is what you make it.

**Every path has its puddle.**

Progress is rarely without difficulty.

**Every rose has its thorn.**

Every good thing has an unpleasant side.

**Every why has a wherefore.**

There is an explanation for everything.

**Everything in the garden is rosy.**

Everything is satisfactory.

**Experience is the father of wisdom.**

Experience and knowledge result in better judgment.

### Alphabetical list - F

**Facts speak louder than words.**

People show what they are really like by what they do, rather than by what they say.

**Failure teaches success.**

People can learn from their failures and be successful later on.

**False friends are worse than open enemies.**

**Familiarity breeds contempt**

Knowing somebody very well may lead to a lack of respect for them.

**(A) fault confessed is half redressed.**

Confession is the beginning of forgiveness.

**Fine words butter no parsnips.**

No amount of talking can replace action.

**First come, first served.**

The first person in the line will be attended to first.

**(A) flower blooms more than once.**

If you miss an occasion, you can avail of it at another time.

**(A) fool at forty is a fool forever.**

If a person hasn't matured by the age of 40, they never will.

**(A) fool and his money are soon (easily) parted.**

A foolish person usually spends money carelessly.

**Fool me once, shame on you; fool me twice, shame on me.**

One should learn from one's mistakes.

**Fools rush in where angels fear to tread**

Inexperienced people become involved in situations that more intelligent people would avoid.

**(A) friend in need is a friend indeed.**

Someone who helps you when you are in trouble is a real friend.

**(A) friend to all is a friend to none.**

Someone who is a friend to everyone makes none of them feel special.

**(A) friend's eye is a good mirror.**

A real friend will tell you the truth.

**Friendship is love with understanding.**

**Alphabetical list - G**

**Gardens are not made by sitting in the shade.**

Nothing is achieved without effort.

**Give someone an inch and they will take a mile (or yard).**

Give someone a little and they will want more - some people are never satisfied.

**Give someone enough rope and they will hang themselves.**

Give someone enough time and freedom and they will get into trouble.

**God helps those who help themselves.**

**Good accounting makes good friends.**

You will keep your friends if you avoid disputes over money.

**Good and quickly seldom meet.**

A well-done job takes time.

**(A) good conscience is a soft pillow.**

You sleep well when you have nothing to feel guilty about.

**Good management is better than good income.**

**Great minds think alike.**

Intelligent people very often have the same idea at the same time.

**Great oaks grow from little acorns.**

Large successful operations can begin in a small way.

**Grief divided is made lighter**

If you share your grief it will be easier to bear.

**(A) guilty conscience needs no accuser.**

### Alphabetical list - H

**Half a loaf is better than none.**

You should be grateful for something, even if it's not as much as you wanted.

**Hard words break no bones.**

Criticism or verbal attacks may be unpleasant but will not kill anyone.

**Haste makes waste.**

If something is done too quickly, it may be done carelessly and need to be redone.

**Hatred is as blind as love.**

A person who feels hatred does not see any qualities in the person he/she hates.

**He can who believes he can**

If you believe you can do something, you will be able to do it.

**He has enough who is content.**

A happy person needs nothing more.

**He who hesitates is lost.**

If you delay your decision too long, you may miss a good opportunity.

**He who is everywhere is nowhere.**

It's not good to do too many things at the same time.

**He who knows nothing, doubts nothing.**

Knowledge leads us to make choices.

**He who pays the piper calls the tune.**

The person who provides the money for something should control how it is spent

**He who plays with fire gets burnt.**

If you behave in a risky way, you are likely to have problems.

**He who wills the end wills the means.**

If you are determined to do something you will find a way.

**He laughs best who laughs last.**

Don't express your joy, or your triumph, too soon!

**Health is better than wealth.**

It's better to be in good health than to be rich.

**Home is where the heart is.**

You call home the place where the people you love are.

**Honesty is the best policy.**

It's always better to be honest.

**Honey catches more flies than vinegar.**

You can obtain more cooperation from others by being nice.

**However long the night, the dawn will break**

Bad things don't last forever.

**Hunger is a good sauce.**

All food tastes good when you are hungry.

### Alphabetical list - I

**(An) idle brain is the devil's workshop.**

When you work you avoid temptation.

**In times of prosperity friends are plentiful.**

You have many friends when you have no difficulties.

**If a camel gets his nose in a tent, his body will follow.**

If you let something intrusive enter your life, your life will become difficult .

**If in February there be no rain, 'tis neither good for hay nor grain.**

Plants and crops will grow badly if there is no rain in early spring.

**If you are patient in one moment of anger, you will avoid 100 days of sorrow.**

Avoid regrets by taking time to think before speaking or acting angrily.

**If you chase two rabbits, you will not catch either one.**

If you try to do two things at the same time, you won't succeed in doing either of them.

**If two ride a horse, one must ride behind.**

When two people do something together, one will be the leader and the other will be the subordinate.

**If you want a friend, be a friend.**

Friendship must be reciprocal.

**If wishes were horses, then beggars would ride.**

Wishing alone is of no use; you must act as well.

**Ignorance is bliss.**

Possible interpretation: What you do not know causes no worry or sadness.

**In for a penny, in for a pound.**

If you start something, it's better to spend the time or money necessary to complete it.

**In the land of the blind, the one-eyed man is king.**

A man of even limited ability has an advantage over a person who is less able.

**It never rains but it pours.**

Misfortunes usually come in large numbers.

**It is always darkest before the dawn**

The most difficult time is just before a problem is solved.

**It's no use crying over spilt milk.**

Don't express regret for something that has happened and cannot be remedied.

**It takes all sorts to make a world.**

People vary in character and abilities, and this is a good thing.

### Alphabetical list - J-K

**Justice delayed is justice denied.**

If the law is applied too late, there is no justice.

**Kill one to warn a hundred.**

Warn many by punishing a few.

**Kill the goose that lays the golden egg.**

Destroy something that would be a source of wealth or success.

**Kindness begets kindness.**

If you are kind to someone, they will return your kindness.

**Knowledge in youth is wisdom in age.**

What you learn when you are young will be invaluable when you grow old.

**Knowledge is power.**

Knowledge makes it possible for you to act.

### Alphabetical list - L

**Laughter is the best medicine.**

Laughter makes people feel good.

**Learn to walk before you run.**

Don't rush into doing something until you know how to do it.

**Learning is a treasure that will follow its owner everywhere.**

Education is something you keep forever.

**Least said soonest mended.**

The more discreet you are, the less damage you cause.

**(A) leopard cannot change its spots.**

It is not possible for a bad or unpleasant person to become good or pleasant.

**Let bygones be bygones.**

Let's forgive and forget past quarrels.

**Let the chips fall where they may.**

We should not try to control our destiny.

**Liars need good memories.**

People who do not tell the truth must be careful to remember what they say.

**Lightning never strikes in the same place twice**

An unusual event is not likely to occur again in exactly the same circumstances.

**Like father, like son.**

A son's character can be expected to resemble his father's.

**Little strokes fell great oaks.**

If you divide a task into small parts, it becomes easier to do.

**(A) loaded wagon makes no noise.**

Really wealthy don't talk about money.

**Look before you leap.**

Consider possible consequences before taking action.

**Loose lips sink ships.**

Disclosing important information ( to the enemy or a competitor) could result in large losses.

**Losers weepers, finders keepers.**

If you lose something, you weep, if you find something, you keep it.

**Love is blind.**

A person in love does not see the faults of the person he/she loves.

**(A) loveless life is a living death.**

Without affection, life is difficult.

**Alphabetical list - M**

**Make a silk purse out of a sow's ear**

Manage to produce something good using poor material.

**Man is the head of the family and woman is the neck that turns the head.**

**Man proposes, God disposes.**

Our destiny depends on God's will.

**(A) man can die but once.**

**(A) man is as old as he feels himself to be.**

Your age doesn't matter as long as you are fit and healthy.

**(A) man is known by the company he keeps.**

A person's character is judged by the type of people with whom they spend their time.

**Manners make the man.**

Possibly: a person's manners show their origins.

**Many hands make light work.**

Sharing work makes work easier.

**Marry in haste, repent at leisure.**

If you get married too quickly, you may spend all your life regretting it.

**Memory is the treasure of the mind.**

**Men make houses, women make homes.**

**Might as well be hanged for a sheep as (for) a lamb.**

If the penalty is going to be the same, you might as well commit the greater offence.

**Money begets money.**

If you have money you can make more money.

**Money doesn't grow on trees.**

You shouldn't waste money because it is not plentiful.

**Money is the root of all evil.**

Money is the main cause of wrongdoing and problems.

**(A) monkey in silk is a monkey no less.**

No matter how someone dresses, it's the same person underneath.

### Alphabetical list - N

**Necessity is the mother of invention.**

The need for something forces people to find a way of obtaining it.

**Need teaches a plan.**

Necessity will make you find a solution.

**Never put off till tomorrow what can be done today**

Don't postpone something you can do now.

**Never say die.**

Never give up.

**(A) new broom sweeps clean.**

A newly-appointed person makes changes energetically.

**Nobody is perfect.**

It is understandable not to be perfect or to make occasional mistakes.

**No man can serve two masters.**

It's impossible to follow instructions from two different sources.

**No man is an island.**

We all need other people.

**No news is good news.**

If the news was bad, we would hear of it. Since we have heard nothing, we can assume that all is well.

**No smoke without fire.**

There could be some truth in the rumour...

**No wind, no waves.**

Similar to : 'no smoke without fire'.

**Nothing ventured, nothing gained.**

You cannot expect to achieve anything if you don't take risks.

## Alphabetical list - O

**Once bitten, twice shy.**

After an unpleasant experience, people are careful to avoid something similar.

**One father is more than a hundred schoolmasters.**

A child is raised by a father and taught by a teacher.  
The teacher cannot replace the father.

**One good turn deserves another.**

You should be helpful to someone who helps you.

**One of these days is none of these days.**

'One of these days' remains a vague promise.

**One today is worth two tomorrow.**

What you have today is better than what is promised or hoped for.

**One man's meat is another man's poison**

People don't always like the same things.

**One man's trash is another man's treasure.**

What is useless to one person could be valuable to another.

**One swallow doesn't make a summer.**

A single satisfactory event does not mean that all the others will be as good.

**(An) onion a day keeps everyone away.**

A humoristic version of "an apple a day..."

**Only real friends will tell you when your face is dirty.**

Only a real friend will tell you the truth.

**Opportunity seldom knocks twice.**

Don't miss opportunities that come along.

**(An) ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.**

It is easier to prevent something from happening than to repair the damage or cure the disease later.

**Out of the mouths of babes and sucklings**

Children often speak wisely.

**Out of sight, out of mind.**

We tend to forget people or things that we do not see.

**Alphabetical list - P...R**

**Penny wise, pound foolish.**

Refers to a person who is careful about spending small amounts of money, but not careful about spending large amounts of money.

**People who live in glass houses should not throw stones.**

One should not criticize others for faults similar to one's own.

**Poverty waits at the gates of idleness.**

If you do not work you will not make money.

**Practice makes perfect.**

Doing something repeatedly is the only way to become good at it.

**Practise what you preach**

Do yourself what you advise others to do.

**Prevention is better than cure**

It is easier to prevent something from happening than to repair the damage or cure the disease later.

**Pride comes before a fall.**

Don't be too self-confident or proud; something may happen to make you look foolish.

**(A) problem shared is a problem halved**

It is easier to deal with a problem when you discuss it with someone.

**Procrastination is the thief of time**

Delaying an action for too long is a waste of time.

**Punctuality is the soul of business**

You should always be on time for your business appointments.

**Put all your eggs in one basket**

Risk everything by relying on one plan (by putting all one's money in one business).

**Revenge is sweet.**

There is satisfaction in returning an injury.

**(A) rising tide lifts all boats.**

Describes something that will be helpful to all.

**(A) rolling stone gathers no moss.**

If a person keeps moving from place to place, they gain neither friends nor possessions.

Another interpretation is that, by moving often, one avoids being tied down!

**Rome was not built in a day.**

It takes a long time to do a job properly. You should not expect to do it quickly.

**(A) rotten apple spoils the barrel.**

A dishonest or immoral person can have a bad influence on a group.

**Alphabetical list - S**

**Save me from my friends.**

Friends can be more dangerous than enemies.

**Saying is one thing, doing is another.**

People don't always do what they announce.

**Short reckonings make long friends.**

Debts paid quickly encourage friendship.

**Sickness in the body brings sadness to the mind.**

Physical suffering can lead to sadness or depression.

**Silence gives consent.**

If you don't object to something it can be assumed that you agree with it.

**(A) smooth sea never made a skilled mariner.**

Overcoming adversity leads to competence.

**Snug as a bug in a rug.**

Feeling very comfortable.

**Spare the rod and spoil the child**

If you don't punish a child when he does wrong, you will spoil his character.

**Sticks and stones will break my bones but names will never hurt me**

Physical attacks may harm me, but cruel words will not.

**Still waters run deep.**

A quiet person can have much knowledge or wisdom.

**(A) stitch in time saves nine**

It's better to deal with a problem in its early stages, because if you don't, it will get worse.

**(A) stumble may prevent a fall.**

Correcting a small mistake may help you to avoid making a bigger one.

**(A) swallow does not make the summer.**

One good event does not mean that everything is alright.

**Stolen fruit is the sweetest.**

What is forbidden is the most tempting.

### Alphabetical list - T

**Tall oaks grow from little acorns.**

Great things may come from small beginnings.

**The apple doesn't fall far from the tree.**

Children resemble their parents.

**The best advice is found on the pillow.**

After a good night's sleep, we may find an answer to our problem.

**The best things in life are free.**

You don't have to pay for what is important : happiness, friendship, good health.

**The darkest hour is just before dawn.**

There is hope even in the worst of times.

**The devil looks after his own.**

Success comes to those who deserve it least .

**The devil makes work for idle hands**

People who have no work, or are idle, often get into or make trouble.

**The die is cast.**

A decision has been made and it's impossible to change it.

**The early bird catches the worm.**

If you want to do something successfully, you should do it as soon as you can.

**The end justifies the means.**

Wrong or unfair methods may be used if the result of the action is good.

**The first step is the hardest.**

The most difficult thing is to begin.

**The more haste, the less speed.**

A person makes more progress if they do things less quickly.

**The more you have, the more you want.**

People have a constant desire to possess more.

**The mouse that has but one hole is quickly taken.**

If you depend on just one thing, and it fails you, you will have no alternatives.

**The pen is mightier than the sword**

Words and communication have greater effect than war and fighting.

**The proof of the pudding is in the eating.**

The real value of something can be judged only after it has been tried or tested.

**The road to hell is paved with good intentions.**

It's not enough to intend to do something, you must actually do it.

**The tongue wounds more than a lance.**

Insults can be more hurtful than physical injuries.

**The truth is in the wine.**

People speak more freely under the influence of alcohol.

**The way to a man's heart is through his stomach.**

Feed a man well and he will love you.

**The wish is father to the thought.**

You think that something is true because you want it to be so.

**There is a black sheep in every flock.**

There is always one who doesn't behave or perform like the others.

**There is a trick in every trade.**

There is an established way of doing things.

**There is no fool like an old fool.**

A older person is expected to behave more sensibly.

**There is safety in numbers**

Being in a crowd makes you feel more confident.

**Time and tide wait for no man.**

Delaying a decision will not prevent events from taking place.

**Time has wings.**

Time goes by quickly.

**Time is money.**

Time is valuable and should not be wasted.

**To err is human, to forgive divine**

It is human nature to make mistakes, therefore one should forgive.

**Too many cooks spoil the broth.**

(Humoristic version : Too many clicks spoil the browse!)

If too many people are involved in something, it will not be done properly.

**Too much bed makes a dull head.**

If you sleep too much, you are not able to think clearly.

**(A) tree is known by its fruit.**

A man is judged by his actions.

**Trust not a horse's heel nor a dog's tooth.**

A horse kicks from behind, a dog attacks with its teeth.

**Truth has no answer.**

You cannot argue against facts or refute what is true.

**Truth is stranger than fiction.**

Events in real life are sometimes stranger than in fiction.

**Two wrongs don't make a right**

It is wrong to harm someone because they have harmed you.

### Alphabetical list - U-V

#### **Union is strength.**

A group has more force than an individual.

#### **Unwillingness easily finds an excuse.**

A person who doesn't want to do something always finds a reason to avoid it.

#### **Variety is the spice of life.**

Doing a lot of different things makes life more interesting.

#### **Virtue is its own reward.**

You should not expect praise for acting in a correct or moral way.

### Alphabetical list - W

#### **Walls have ears.**

Be careful. People could be listening.

#### **Waste not, want not.**

If you never waste anything, you will have it when you need it.

#### **(A) watched pot never boils**

If you wait anxiously for something, it seems to take a long time.

#### **What the eye doesn't see, the heart doesn't grieve over.**

If a person doesn't know about something, it cannot hurt them.

#### **What a man says drunk, he thinks sober.**

People speak more freely under the influence of alcohol.

#### **What soberness conceals, drunkenness reveals.**

People are less discreet under the influence of alcohol.

#### **When the cat's away, the mice play.**

People misbehave when their boss, or the person in authority, is absent.

#### **When in Rome, do as the Romans do.**

You should adopt the customs of the people or country you are visiting, and behave in the same way.

#### **When poverty come in the door, love goes out the window.**

When a couple loses everything, their relationship becomes difficult.

**Where there's life there's hope.**

As long as a person is breathing, there is hope for recovery.

**Where there's a will, there's a way.**

A person with determination will find a way of doing something.

**Who makes himself a sheep will be eaten by the wolves.**

Possible interpretation: an easily influenced person can be mislead.

**Wisdom is better than strength.**

It is preferable to use one's intelligence than one's physical strength.

**Wonders will never cease!**

Expresses surprise at an unexpected pleasure or event (ironic).

**Worry often gives a small thing a big shadow.**

Worrying over small details can make them seem worse.

### Alphabetical list - Y-Z

**You are what you eat.**

What you eat has an effect on your well-being.

**You are never too old to learn.**

You can always learn something new no matter how old you are.

**You can lead a horse to water but you can't make it drink.**

You can offer someone an opportunity to do something but you can't force them.

**You can't teach an old dog new tricks.**

A person who is used to doing things a certain way cannot change.

**You never know what you can do until you try.**

Try first before deciding not to do something.

**You scratch my back and I'll scratch yours.**

You help me and I'll help you.

**(A) young idler, an old beggar.**

If you don't work, you won't have any money when you're old.

The CSS point